यह कहा जा सकता है कि किसानों को इसमें से प्रत्यक्ष रूप से 50 प्रतिशत से कुछ अधिक लाभ प्राप्त होता है।

Irrigation potential

999. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state what is the comparative rise in the irrigation potential created during 1986, 1987 and 1988 and what is the potential likely to 1M created during the coming years to achieve the foodgrains target by 2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): The additional irrigation potential created during 1985-86, 1986-87 and 1987-88 is 2037.28 th. ha., 2101.76 th. ha. and 2302.11 th. ha. respectively. The plan-wise target for creation of irrigation potential is fixed in consultation with State • Governments at the time of finalisation of Five Year Plan and Annual Plans. Creation of potential in the subsequent years will depend upon the Plan allocations.

Demand notice on M/s. I.T.C. Ltd. issued by the Collector, Central Excise, Meerut

1000. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA:

SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1685 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th November, 1988 regarding demand notice issued on Mls. Indian Tobacco Co. (I.T.C.) Ltd. by the Collector, Central Excise, Meerut for a sum of Rs. 80.30 crores and state:

(a) whether the writ petition filed by Mls. I.T.C. Ltd. in the Allahabad High Court challenging the demand for Rs. 80.30 crores has since been disposed of; and

(b) if so, what is the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) The writ petition filed by Mls. I.T.C. Ltd. in the Allahabad Hijii Court challenging the demand for Rs. 80.30 crores is still pending;

(b) Does not arise.

Income-tax on pension of retired Government employees

1001. SHRI VIRENDRA VERMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether pension payable to the retired Government employees is taxable; and

(b) if so, what is the justification for taxing the hard earned pension of the retired Government employees which is the minimum amount received by them after long years of service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Pension payable to retired employees (including retired Government employees) is chargeable to income-tax as it bears the character of income. A pensioner is, however, not required to pay income-tax unless his total income (including income by way of pension) as computed under the Income, tax Act exceeds the exemption limit, which, at present, is Rs. 18,000l-.

Issuance of chargesheets *to* A.S.T.Os of Delhi Administration

1002. SHRI B. L. PANWAR; Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Assistant Sales Tax Officers of Delhi Administration have been issued chargesheets.

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) what are the charges against the Assistant Sales Tax Officers along with the names of the officers who have been issued chargesheets. and